

Washington, DC – Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23) announced \$3.65 million in appropriations funding for Bexar County in the FY 2011 budget. Congressman Rodriguez sits on the powerful House Appropriations Committee and his leadership is instrumental in getting these projects funded.

"Communities know best what their needs are, and the appropriations process is an important tool Congress has to support communities by funding important projects," said Congressman Rodriguez. "In addition to grants and other types of federal funding, appropriations help bridge the gap between a project's total cost and existing funds on the local level. This particular funding will help improve our public transportation system and address aviation needs, in addition to providing important funding so law enforcement officers can continue protecting the safety of San Antonio residents."

The projects include:

- \$2.4 million for VIA Metropolitan Transit to construct bus facilities;
- \$1 million in funding for the Stinson Airport Taxilane Extension to support development of a new aviation hangar;
- \$250,000 for technology improvements and in-car video for the San Antonio Police Department.

VIA President and CEO Keith T. Parker said he was extremely pleased by the announcement.

"We are extremely pleased with this announcement. The funding announced by Congressman Rodriguez will allow VIA to move forward with projects that will help improve and enhance mobility in the San Antonio-Bexar County region," Parker said. "As we modernize our system, we are able to give our riders the comfort and convenience they deserve while at the same time providing the latest technology our community deserves. We are grateful to Congressman

Rodriguez, and I know our community thanks him, too.”

The announcement of these project requests is the first critical step in ultimate funding. These requests, submitted by Congressman Rodriguez on behalf of communities in the 23rd Congressional District, must also pass the full committee and House.

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